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14.—*A Course of Six Lectures on the Chemical History of a Candle: to which is added a Lecture on Platinum.* By MICHAEL FARADAY, D. C. L., F. R. S., Fullerian Professor of Chemistry, Royal Institution; Foreign Associate of the Academy of Sciences, etc. Delivered before a Juvenile Auditory at the Royal Institution of Great Britain during the Christmas Holidays of 1860–1. Edited by WILLIAM CROOKES, F. C. S. With numerous Illustrations. New York: Harper and Brothers. 1861. 16mo. pp. 223.

HERE we have a series of “object-lessons” well worthy of the author’s world-wide reputation. On the text of the candle he has constructed a commentary of chemical science, at once simple and profound, intelligible by a child and yet conveying the last results of research and experiment. The lecture on platinum has similar merit, though the subject was less within the familiar knowledge of the audience, and its treatment, equally plain to those who witnessed the brilliant experiments which attended the delivery of the lecture, is not so easily understood from the printed page.

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15.—*The Popular Education of France, with Notices of that of Holland and Switzerland.* By MATTHEW ARNOLD, M. A., Foreign Assistant-Commissioner to the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the State of Popular Education in England; Professor of Poetry in the University of Oxford; one of her Majesty’s Inspectors of Schools. London: Longman, Green, Longman, and Roberts. 1861. 8vo. pp. 1, 294.

MR. ARNOLD’s survey of the systems of popular education in France, Holland, and Switzerland, results, as might have been anticipated, in a comparison by no means favorable to his own country. It proves that the state may assume extensive educational functions without injuriously affecting individual freedom, may multiply the privileges of its future citizens without endangering the just equilibrium of society, and may provide for the religious instruction of children and youth without injustice to the various sects which equally bear the public burdens and are entitled to equal benefit in the public expenditures. It proves also that there is no necessity for so costly and cumbrous a system of educational supervision and management as is in accordance with the genius or the habitudes of British institutions. The volume is full of valuable suggestions for the vast work in which England as yet lingers far behind the United States and the other countries of Western Europe. The book, otherwise worthy of the highest praise, is disfigured by gratuitous

sneers at American civilization, which betray more ignorance than ill-nature, and which on that very account are the more unworthy of a volume professing to give the results of actual research and inquiry, and of a scholar whose cosmopolitan culture ought to have raised him above vulgar national prejudice.

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16.—*Words of Comfort for Parents bereaved of Little Children.*

Edited by WILLIAM LOGAN, Author of "The Moral Statistics of Glasgow." With an Introduction by the REV. WILLIAM ANDERSON, LL. D., Glasgow. London : James Nisbet & Co. 1861. 16mo. pp. 374.

WE have here an instance in which the deep grief of one heart has opened sources of unspeakable comfort for many. This volume was occasioned by the death of Mr. Logan's only daughter, a sweet little girl of nearly five years. It commences with an Introduction by Dr. Anderson, on "The Question of Infant Salvation," which would be highly satisfactory if a doubt on the subject could be reasonably entertained ; but we are prone to lose all patience with the discussion of a question which to answer in the negative tears the very heart out of Christianity, and degrades it below the level of Moloch-worship. Next follows a touching sketch of the editor's departed Sophia, with several letters written to her parents on the occasion of her death. The greater part of the volume consists of extracts and original contributions from various writers, British and American, all bearing upon the heavenly life of translated children, or suggesting thoughts of peace to their parents, together with many familiar and several new and strikingly beautiful poems of similar intent and purport. A richer treasury of consolation in human words could hardly be compiled, though all who have had experience of such bereavement have felt that the best office of essay, sermon, or song under the stress of grief is to remand the stricken hearts to the Divine words of Him who spake as never man spake.

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17.—*A New Translation of the Book of Job. With an Introduction, and Notes chiefly Explanatory.* By GEORGE R. NOYES, D. D., Hancock Professor of Hebrew, etc. and Dexter Lecturer in Harvard University. Third Edition. Carefully Revised. Boston : James Munroe & Co. 1861. 12mo. pp. 212.

THE first edition of this work was duly reviewed in our pages. Of that edition we have not a copy at hand ; but from our remembrance